

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

S

1

SENATE BILL 651

Short Title: Critical Economic Opportunity Projects. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Jackson, Rabin, Newton (Primary Sponsors); Brock and Tillman.

Referred to: Commerce.

April 4, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT PROVIDING THAT THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, COMMISSIONER OF
3 AGRICULTURE, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION SHALL
4 ESTABLISH STANDARDS, PROCEDURES, AND AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES TO
5 FACILITATE NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO CRITICAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
6 PROJECTS IN THE STATE.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 **SECTION 1.** Article 7 of Chapter 62 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
9 a new section to read as follows:

10 "**§ 62-133.7A. Facilitation of natural gas service to critical economic opportunity projects.**

11 The Secretary of Commerce, Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Chairman of the
12 Utilities Commission shall establish standards, procedures, and agency responsibilities to
13 facilitate natural gas service to critical economic opportunity projects in the State. To qualify as
14 a critical economic opportunity project, a proposed project must have a positive net present
15 value to the economy of the State when measured over the reasonable life span of the project or
16 must be projected to increase employment in the State by at least 100 full-time jobs, or both."

17 **SECTION 2.** The Secretary of Commerce, Commissioner of Agriculture, and the
18 Chairman of the Utilities Commission shall meet as soon as practicable after this act becomes
19 effective to establish standards, procedures, and agency responsibilities for the facilitation of
20 natural gas service to critical economic opportunity projects, as provided in G.S. 62-133.7A, as
21 enacted by this act. No later than October 1, 2014, the Secretary of Commerce, Commissioner
22 of Agriculture, and the Chairman of the Utilities Commission shall submit a report of their
23 findings and conclusions under this section to the Joint Legislative Commission on
24 Governmental Operations.

25 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

